




U VISA ELIGIBILITY CHECKLIST


- You are not a United States citizen, United States national or lawful permanent resident (green card holder).
 - You were or are the victim of a crime covered by the U visa.
 - The crime occurred in the United States or a territory or possession of the United States.
 - You suffered substantial physical or mental injury as a result of the crime.
 - You have information about the crime.
 - You have been helpful, are being helpful, or are likely to be helpful to law enforcement in the investigation and prosecution of the crime.
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U VISA
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U VISA LEGAL IMMIGRATION STATUS FOR CRIME VICTIMS

- *Are you a non-citizen who was a victim of a serious crime?*
- *Have you been helpful, are you being helpful, or are you likely to be helpful to law enforcement in the investigation or prosecution of the crime?*

If your answer to both of these questions is yes, you may be eligible for a U visa. The U visa will allow you to live and work in the United States.

WHAT IS THE U VISA PROGRAM?

Under the U visa program, a non-citizen who is a victim of certain crimes and who cooperates with law enforcement may be able to apply for temporary legal immigration status. A person who is granted a U visa can live and work in the United States for three years. At the end of the three years, the U visa holder may apply for lawful permanent resident status (a green card).

WHO BENEFITS FROM THE U VISA PROGRAM?

The U visa program applies to crime victims who are not United States citizens, United States nationals, or lawful permanent residents.

CAN FAMILY MEMBERS ALSO OBTAIN BENEFITS UNDER THE U VISA PROGRAM?

Yes. Spouses and minor children under 21 years of age may be included in a victim's application for a U visa. In addition, if the victim is a non-citizen under 16 years of age, the victim's parent, guardian or next friend may be eligible for a U visa if the criminal investigation or prosecution would be harmed without their assistance.

WHAT CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES ARE COVERED BY THE U VISA?

In order to qualify for a U visa, the immigrant must be a victim of one or more of the following crimes or any similar activity in violation of Federal, State, or local criminal law: domestic violence, felony assault, torture, rape, sexual violence, abusive sexual contact, sexual assault, abusive sexual contact, sexual exploitation, prostitution, female genital mutilation, slave trade, human trafficking, involuntary servitude, kidnapping, abduction, unlawful criminal restraint, false imprisonment, blackmail extortion, witness tampering, obstruction of justice, perjury, manslaughter, murder or attempt, conspiracy, or solicitation to commit any of these crimes.

WHAT ARE THE U VISA ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS?

There are five basic requirements for a U visa. You may be eligible for a U visa if:

1. you were or are the victim of a crime covered by the U visa;
2. the crime occurred in the United States or the territories or possessions of the United States;
3. you suffered substantial physical or mental injury as a result of the crime;
4. you have information about the crime; and
5. you have been, are being, or are likely to be helpful to the police or prosecutors in the investigation or prosecution of the crime.

CAN I QUALIFY FOR A U VISA IF I WAS THE VICTIM OF A PAST CRIME?

Yes. Victims of past crimes are eligible if they meet the U visa requirements.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

- If you are in danger or in immediate threat of danger, call the police at 911.
- If you are interested in finding out whether you are eligible for a U visa, talk to an immigration attorney *before* contacting immigration officials at the Department of Homeland Security.
- To consult with an immigration attorney, call Na Loio at 808-536-8826. If you live on a Neighbor Island, call Na Loio's toll free number at 1-877-208-8828.
- Speak with an immigration attorney before leaving the United States, even if you have applied for or received a U visa. If you leave, you may not be able to re-enter the United States.
- Keep in a safe place all important contact information such as phone numbers for the domestic violence hotline, your attorney, and your counselor.
- Keep all records related to the crime and to your physical or emotional harm such as police report numbers, medical records, counseling and treatment reports, and photographs of injuries.
- A U visa expires at the end of three years. If you want to remain in the United States, you must apply for lawful permanent resident status before the U visa expires.